

“Airbag” Baler Modification Adjusts Density Automatically

“It’s the first density control system for small square balers that adjusts automatically to changing field conditions on-the-go,” says Scott Seaver about the airbag control method he developed for his own use on his farm near Montague, Mich.

With the Airbaler™ kit installed on your baler, there’s no longer a need for any manual adjustment as field conditions change. The airbag automatically expands and contracts to apply constant and uniform tension to the bale chamber. It eliminates the problem of bales that are too loose or too tight.

The patent-pending Airbaler kit is compatible with all top brand small square balers. Components are available custom-painted to match your brand. The kit includes rubber airbag, ballast tank, tension bar, pressure gauge, and an optional air compressor kit.

Seaver has tested and perfected the Airbaler over the past five years, making more than 50,000 bales of hay with it. He recently put the kit on the market.

To maintain constant bale density, two par-

allel tensioning rails above and below the chamber apply constant and uniform tension. As hay is forced through the bale chamber, it has to overcome the force applied by the two rails.

“Existing systems use mechanical springs or hydraulics to maintain force on the rails. The problem is that just a small change in the field can result in a big change in force within the bale chamber, greatly varying the density of the bale,” says Seaver.

“Until we started using this system, we had to interrupt baling to manually adjust the hand crank or hydraulic pressure regulator. The Airbaler is the only control system that does the job automatically. Because it uses air, tension is applied equally to both sides of the bale chamber. And in our experience, it produces perfect uniform bales virtually 100 percent of the time, adjusting to swings in volume flowing through the chamber. There’s never been anything like it.”

The Airbaler kit will fit both old and new balers. Some minor modifications might be needed for some older makes. Seaver thinks the kit will actually lengthen the life of most balers by reducing wear and tear on the machine and evening out the horsepower required to operate it because it eliminates the need to force large volumes through if the chamber tension is set too tight.

The kit takes only about 2 1/2 hrs. to install. Once installed, you just fill the air tank before heading to the field. If you buy the optional air compressor, you can fill the air tank anywhere. Sells for \$595. Add \$200 for the optional air compressor.

Contact: Scott Seaver Co., 4346 West Roosevelt Rd., Montague, Mich. 49437 (ph 231-894-9703; www.scottseaver.com).



Airbaler kit replaces manual and hydraulic tensioning rods above bale chamber. Airbag mounts directly above bale chamber, fed by air from a small tank (at right in photo).



Airbag extends (left) and contracts (right) as needed to keep bales uniform.

Vol. 31, No. 3, 2007

Harold M. Johnson
Founder

Editor/Publisher

Mark Newhall (mark@farmshow.com)

Senior Editor

Bill Gergen (bill@farmshow.com)

Contributing Editors

Janis Schole (jschole@west-teq.net)

Jim Ruen (edgecom@acegroup.cc)

C.F. Marley (ph 217 563-2588)

Dee Goerge (dee_goerge@yahoo.com)

Office Manager

Anne Lash (anne@farmshow.com)

Circulation

Peg Nagel, Shelly Mende, Mary Lunde,

Sue Romnes (circulation@farmshow.com)

FARM SHOW (ISSN #01634518) is published bimonthly (6 times a year) for \$21.95 per year (\$25.95 in Canada and foreign countries) by Farm Show Publishing, Inc., P.O. Box 1029, 20088 Kenwood Trail, Lakeville, Minn. 55044. Periodicals postage paid at Lakeville, Minn., and Madelia, Minn. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to FARM SHOW, P.O. Box 1029, Lakeville, Minn. 55044 (ph 952 469-5572; fax 952 469-5575; email: circulation@farmshow.com; website: www.farmshow.com). Single copy price is \$5.00 (\$7.00 in Canada). Publication No. 469490.

Publications Mail Agreement No. 40032660
Return Undeliverable Canadian Addresses To:
Dycom Mail Svcs.
495 Berry St.
Winnipeg, MB R3J 1N6
Email: circulation@farmshow.com

FARM SHOW does not accept advertising and focuses exclusively on new products and product evaluations.

FARM SHOW does not charge for new products or services featured in the magazine. Anyone with a new product or service of interest to farmers - whether inventor, manufacturer, marketer, distributor or whatever - is invited to contact FARM SHOW regarding possible publication.

FARM SHOW Publishing, Inc., has not tested or used any of the ideas or products described in its publications. FARM SHOW Publishing, Inc., does not promote, recommend or endorse the use of the ideas or products described in its publications. FARM SHOW Publishing, Inc., disclaims any and all responsibilities and liabilities in the event of personal injury, death, property damage or losses as the result of the use or application of any such ideas or products. Anyone applying or using such ideas or products does so at his, her or their own risk.

Printed in U.S.A. All rights reserved, including the right of reproduction, in whole or in part, without written permission.

May-June, 2007

Wooden Vehicles Are Works Of Art

John Girard of Eugene, Oregon creates original life-sized wooden motorcycles and cars by carving and cutting hundreds of pieces of wood.

He started out creating 2-ft. long mini motorcycles, but in the last five years, has made four full-scale wooden motorcycle “sculptures”.

“My first big bike took three years, with help from my son-in-law, Frank Petersen,” Girard explains. “It’s made from 16 different types of wood and is similar to my own Harley Davidson. I call it The Woodchopper.”

He glues his creations together with wood glue and coats them with two coats of plastic resin, which serve as both an adhesive and a varnish. The bikes are stationary and sit on special dollies because they’re fragile, due to their size and weight.

“The last bike I built is called The Spruce Rooster because I used spruce to make it,” Girard says. “It has a real DVD player in the rear fender and a stereo player in the fuel tank. The sculpture sits on a base with castor wheels, making it easier to move around.”

Girard sells his mini motorcycles, which take three to four weeks to make, for \$200 to \$300 each. The large bikes sell for a lot more. The Woodchopper, for example, is priced at \$25,000.

Another one of his creations is a full-sized wooden convertible car with a V-8 “all-maple” motor. It’s 12 1/2 ft. long, 5 ft. wide and 3 1/2 ft. high.

The ambitious artist is looking for a sponsor to finance the \$3,000 to \$4,000 he’ll need for his next project - a full-sized working



Girard makes full-scale wooden motorcycle “sculptures”.

motorcycle, with all but the motor and frame built from wood.

What makes Girard’s work even more amazing is that he is a 30-year amputee who walks on his knees, using Kevlar-soled “stubbies” form-fitted to his stumps.

His work expresses his life motto: “Defeated but never Defeated.”

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, John Girard, 86095 Cougar Lane, Eugene, Oregon 97402 (ph 541 935-4454).



Full-sized wooden convertible car has a V-8 “all-maple” motor. Car was made by cutting hundreds of pieces of wood and gluing them together.